

strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Beau Martinez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL SHARLENE M. PIGG, AS SHE PREPARES TO RETIRE AFTER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND TO OUR NATION

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the military service of Lieutenant Colonel Sharlene M. Pigg, USA, as she officially retires on September 1, 2016, after an exemplary 20-year career. Lieutenant Colonel Pigg is finishing her career as the commander of the Army's Jacksonville Recruiting Battalion which covers 45,079 square miles, 609 zip codes, 87 counties, and is in the jurisdiction of 377 public schools. In this role, she has matched our tremendously talented North-eastern Florida youths with rewarding careers in the United States Army.

First enlisting in the Florida Army National Guard in 1991, she served in communications and public affairs while earning her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science at Stetson University and also participating in the ROTC program at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Upon graduation, as a Distinguished Honor Graduate, she was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in aviation in the United States Army. She later completed the Army Command and General Staff College.

Over the years, her career has led her to many and varied assignments both in the United States and overseas. They include: 160th Signal Brigade Adjutant at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; Aide de Camp to the Army Forces Command Deputy Commanding General; and Team Chief, Army Forces Command G-1 Strength Management Branch at Fort McPherson, Georgia; Aide de Camp to the Commanding General of the Combined Security Transition Command, Afghanistan; Recruiting Operations Officer for Georgia Tech Army ROTC, Atlanta, Georgia; Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1/210th Aviation Regiment, Fort Rucker, Alabama; Battalion S-1, 1/52nd Aviation Battalion, K-16, Korea; Assistant Brigade S-2, 159th Aviation Brigade, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Platoon Leader, A/5-101st, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and Executive Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3/6 Cavalry Squadron, Camp Humphreys, Korea.

Prior to coming to Jacksonville, Florida, Lieutenant Colonel Pigg served at the Pentagon in two assignments: first as the Officer Policy Integrator for the Director of Military Personnel Management, Army G-1 and most recently, as the Women in the Army Branch Chief. In this position her team drafted the details of the Army's plans to integrate women into combat units.

She will join her husband Chad Pigg and their young son, Beckam, in Atlanta, Georgia, upon relinquishing her duties as Battalion Commander on June 3. I send Lieutenant Colonel Pigg my thanks for a job well done and a career of service in the United States Army.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of the House to join me in congratulating Lieutenant Colonel Sharlene Pigg on her hard work and dedication to the country during her career in the Army. We wish her, her husband Chad, and son Beckam all of the best.

RECOGNIZING DR. GRAZYNA J. KOZACZKA

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Grazyna Kozaczka. Dr. Kozaczka is a native of Krakow, Poland, where she received her doctoral degree in American Literature from the Jagiellonian University. Dr. Kozaczka is a distinguished scholar and renowned Professor of English at Cazenovia College in Cazenovia, New York. Dr. Kozaczka is also the Director of the Honors Programs at Cazenovia College.

Dr. Kozaczka will be honored at the 2016 Syracuse, New York Polish Festival, receiving the "2016 Pole of the Year" Award. She will be recognized for her dedication to studying Polish American history and for all of her scholarly achievements.

Dr. Kozaczka has published scholarly essays, short fiction, as well as popular articles in both Polish and English. She is the President of the Polish American Historical Association, a member of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America, and a member of The Jozef Pilsudski Institute of America and the Modern Language Association.

I am honored to recognize Dr. Grazyna J. Kozaczka for her incredible scholarly accomplishments and for being named the "2016 Pole of the Year" by the Syracuse Polish Scholarship Fund, Inc.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENT AND SERVICE OF MR. JAMES W. KEATING

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize the extraordinary service of Mr. James Keating. Jim, a lifelong resident of Warren, Ohio, recently announced his retirement from a remarkable career spanning 23 years as the Human Resources Director for Trumbull County.

Jim had previously been the Human Resources Director for Heltzel Steel and served 12 years as an elected councilman in Warren. During his tenure at Trumbull County, Jim managed labor relations with five bargaining units within the Sheriff's Office and four with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees units, including contract

negotiations and resolving grievances. In 2006, Jim established a county-wide committee to develop a personnel policy manual that could be adopted by all Trumbull County elected officials.

In leading this committee, Jim exhibited not only his extensive knowledge of human resources policy, but also his ability to lead and establish consensus among county officials. The result was a personnel policy manual that was adopted and is now followed by all elected officials and departments in Trumbull County government. This brings the entire county into legal compliance, fostering fairness and uniformity in human resources practices, and significantly reduces the county's liability exposure.

As a result of his success with the county-wide policy manual in Trumbull County, Jim was tapped by the County Commissioners Association of Ohio's County Risk Sharing Authority (CORSAs) in 2012 to be a member of the CORSAs Personnel Policy Best Practices Panel. As a member of this Panel, which received the Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association and National Public Employer Labor Relations Association 2013 Pacesetter Awards, Jim helped take his success with a county-wide manual in Trumbull County to counties throughout the State. Ultimately, Jim's leaves a professional and productive labor-management environment he has successfully fostered at Trumbull County.

In addition to his knowledge of labor law, Jim is known for his common-sense, respectful approach to labor negotiations. His professional and logical demeanor brings out the best in both sides, and reduces the tendency for proceedings to become adversarial—rightfully earning Jim a reputation for fairness in negotiations. For his leadership in Trumbull County and for the example he has set for government hiring practices across State of Ohio, Jim was awarded the 2014 Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association's "Award of Excellence".

Jim has served his city and his county, and he has earned the respect of his peers. We have been lucky to have him in our community, and Jim will now have an opportunity to spend more time with his wonderful wife, Bernadette, his three children, Brendan, Ryan and Mary Kathryn, and three grandchildren, Justin, Alexis, and Donovan. Mr. Speaker, I wish Jim a great retirement.

CONVENING OF THE 'RELIGIONS AGAINST TERRORISM' CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ASTANA, KAZAKHSTAN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the upcoming conference in Astana, Kazakhstan entitled 'Religions Against Terrorism.' I was honored to be invited to this conference by Chairman Tokayev, Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and regret that I will not be able to attend this important event.

The conference will bring together political and religious leaders from around the world who are dedicated to ensuring that religious